GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:91
ANSWERED ON:17.02.2009
PROGRESS OF SPTF
Hussain Shri Anwar

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the funds allocated, sanctioned and pending under Special Purpose Tea Fund (SPTF) of Tea Board of India during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise;

(b) whether SPTF has been fully utilised;

(c) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) the number of applications received, sanctioned and pending under SPTF during each of the last three years and the current year, State-wise; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government for early disposal of pending applications?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY(SHRI JAIRAM RAMESH)

(a) : The Special Purpose Tea Fund Scheme was notified by the Govt. of India on 17.01.2007. The funds allocated/released under Special Purpose Tea Fund over the last three years is as under :

A/c. Year	Subsidy (Cr. Rs.)			Default Reserve Fund (Cr. Rs.)		
	Sanct-ioned	Rele-ased	Pend-ing	Sanct-ioned	Rele-ased	Pend-ing
2006-07	Nil	Nil	Nil	30.00	30.00	Nil
2007-08	15.00	15.00	Nil	15.00	15.00	Nil
2008-09	25.00	25.00	Nil	15.00	15.00	Nil

The funds are not allocated/sanctioned state-wise.

(b) & (c) : During 2007-08, 96 % of allocated subsidy has been utilized. During 2008-09, it is expected to utilize 100 % of allocated fund.

(d): The scheme came into operation only in 2007-08. Hence the status of the applications received during 2007-08 and 2008-09 is shown below:

Applications received for Loan and subsidy

	2007-08			2008-09		
State	No.	Sanct-ioned	Pending	State	No.	Sanct-ioned	Pending
Assam	126	89	37	Assam	82	5	77
W.B.	72	49	23	W.B.	72	17	55

Cachar 9 3 6 Cachar 7 0 7

Karnataka 0 0 0 Karnataka 0 0 0

Kerala 15 14 1 Kerala 7 1 6

Tamilnadu 2 1 1 Tamilnadu 4 3 1

Tripura 3 0 3 Tripura 1 0 1

Application received for Subsidy only

2007-08			2008-09		
State	No. Sanct- ioned	Pending	State	No. Sanct- ioned	Pending
Assam	210	109 101	Assam	155	3 152
W.B.	134	66 68	W.B.	62	4 58
Cachar	16	3 13	Cachar	11	0 11
Karnataka	3	3 0	Karnataka	1	0 1
Kerala	21	17 4	Kerala	20	4 16
Tamilnadu	24	21 3	Tamilnadu	27	0 27
Tripura	12	2 10	Tripura	12	0 0

(e): The details are as follows : -

(i) Meetings taken by Tea Board with the various stakeholders for exploring the ways and means for resolving procedural delays.

(ii) Matter taken up by Tea Board with the West Bengal Government for expediting the process of renewal of the lease in r/o gardens in the state as non renewal makes it difficult for the Banks to give their consent for sharing the mortgage rights with Tea Board.

(iii) The intervention of the Indian Bank Association (IBA) has been sought for overcoming the differences arising as to the various clauses of the Tripartite Agreement between the Banks holding the title deeds, applicant and Tea Board and for devising a common standard Tripartite Agreement which will be applicable to all the commercial Banks.

(iv) Simplification of scheme provisions and centrally monitoring of the various stages of receipt and processing of applications

(v) Time frames have been set up for the various stages of processing, i.e. from the time of receipt of application to disbursement of financial assistance to ensure payment of loan / subsidy within 6 months from the date of receipt of applications

(vi) A dedicated web site is being developed for the scheme with the provision of submission of applications online.